

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The attached drawing sheets include changes to Figures 1, 3, 4 and 5. Specifically, textual labels have been added as requested by the Examiner for elements 100, 400 and 500 in Figures 1, 4 and 5. Reference character 310 in Figure 3 has been amended to be depicted as module 310 (learning means). Further, the partial views of Figure 5 have been amended to show that Figure 5 is one complete figure. These sheets replace the original sheets comprising Figures 1, 3, 4 and 5.

Attachment: Four (4) Replacement Sheets

REMARKS

Claims 1-29 are currently pending in the subject application and are presently under consideration. Claims 1, 3, 7-10, 12, 24, 27 and 29 have been amended as shown on pp. 2-6 of the Reply. Claims 2 and 11 have been canceled.

Applicant's representative thanks the Examiner for the courtesies extended during the teleconference of October 10, 2006.

Favorable reconsideration of the subject patent application is respectfully requested in view of the comments and amendments herein.

I. Objection to the drawings

The drawings have been amended as requested by the Examiner, and corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.121(d) are submitted with this Reply.

II. Rejection of Claims 1-28 Under 35 U.S.C. §101

Claims 1-28 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 because the claimed subject matter is directed to non-statutory subject matter. Applicant's representative respectively disagrees.

Further, independent claim 1 has been amended herein to clearly illustrate that elements within such claims are components associated with a computer processor. In particular, claim 1 as amended is directed towards a system comprising *a computer processor for executing the following software components, the system is recorded on a computer-readable medium and capable of execution by a computer*, comprising a complete data set; and a Bayesian network constructor component, wherein *the complete data set and Bayesian network constructor component* perform a function (e.g., construct a complete-table Bayesian network, employ a learning algorithm that can reverse edges and analyze the complete data set to identify potential arrangements of edges). (Support for these amendments can be found on pg. 5, line 27-pg. 6, line 6 and pg. 10, line 10). Accordingly, this claim includes functional descriptive material within a computer processor, thereby rendering it structurally and functionally interrelated to the computer processor and is therefore directed to statutory subject matter.

Because the claimed process applies the Boolean principle [abstract idea] *to produce a useful, concrete, tangible result* ... on its face the claimed process comfortably falls within the scope of

§101. *AT&T Corp. v. Excel Communications, Inc.*, 172 F.3d 1352, 1358. (Fed.Cir. 1999) (Emphasis added); *See State Street Bank & Trust Co. v. Signature Fin. Group, Inc.*, 149 F.3d 1368, 1373, 47 USPQ2d 1596, 1601 (Fed.Cir.1998).

Furthermore, claims 10, 24 and 27 have been similarly amended. Thus, it is readily apparent that these claims, as well as independent claim 1, recite independent acts to produce a useful, tangible, and concrete result. Accordingly, this rejection should be withdrawn.

III. Rejection of Claims 1-29 Under 35 U.S.C §112, second paragraph

Claims 1-29 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being incomplete for omitting essential elements, such omission amounting to a gap between the elements. Claims 1, 10, 24, 27 and 29 have been amended to include the omitted element of a search algorithm. Accordingly, this rejection should be withdrawn.

IV. Rejection of Claims 7 and 10-23 Under 35 U.S.C §112, second paragraph

Claims 7 and 10-23 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claims 7 and 10 have been amended as specified by the Examiner. Therefore, this rejection should be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

The present application is believed to be in condition for allowance in view of the above comments and amendments. A prompt action to such end is earnestly solicited.

In the event any fees are due in connection with this document, the Commissioner is authorized to charge those fees to Deposit Account No. 50-1063 [MSFTP575US].

Should the Examiner believe a telephone interview would be helpful to expedite favorable prosecution, the Examiner is invited to contact applicant's undersigned representative at the telephone number below.

Respectfully submitted,
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